

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 302702
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:ALATHERTONJR:MAR
APPROVED BY LSEAGLEBURGER
S/S:AWOTTO

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O 140150Z DEC 76 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 302702

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SA, US

SUBJECT: INVITATION TO PRINCE FAHD

REFS: (A) JIDDA 7950; (B) STATE 301812

1. BELIEVE YOUR SUGGESTION PARA 5 JIDDA REFTEL IS A GOOD ONE. FACT THAT PRESIDENT-ELECT AND SECRETARY-DESIGNATE HAVE NOW CONFIRMED INVITATION TO PRINCE FAHD EARLIER EXTENDED BY SECRETARY ON BEHALF OF PRESIDENT FORD AFFORDS OPPORTUNITY TO FOLLOW-UP ALONG LINES YOU HAVE SUGGESTED. YOU SHOULD TRY TO SEE FAHD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE OR AT ANY RATE PASS MESSAGE TO HIM SAYING THAT YOU HAVE BEEN AUTHORIZED TO CONFIRM MESSAGE WHICH YOU UNDERSTAND ALSO BEING SENT TO CROWN PRINCE BY ALIREZA TO EFFECT THAT PRESIDENT-ELECT AND SECRETARY-DESIGNATE LOOK FORWARD TO EARLY VISIT BY PRINCE FAHD, AND THOROUGH-GOING DISCUSSIONS AT HIGHEST LEVEL WHICH SUCH VISIT WOULD MAKE POSSIBLE.

2. WHILE WE OBVIOUSLY WISH TO AVOID MAKING LINKAGE HEAVY-HANDED, IN PROCESS OF PASSING THIS MESSAGE YOU SHOULD ENDEAVOR TO GET ACROSS IDEA THAT ATMOSPHERE FOR THESE DISCUSSIONS WOULD BE IMPROVED IF OPEC PRICE DECISIONS DO

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NOT EXACERBATE THE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS WITH WHICH PRESIDENT--

ELECT WILL BE COPING AT THAT TIME. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, INVITATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, CAT-A
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchant0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE302702
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ALATHERTONJR:MAR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: P840104-1927
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761244/aaaablug.tel
Line Count: 62
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 76 JIDDA 7950, 76 STATE 301812
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUN 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <08 NOV 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INVITATION TO PRINCE FAHD
TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, SA, US, (FAHD, PRINCE)
To: JIDDA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006